



# *Ex-CBI Roundup*

— CHINA — BURMA — INDIA —

MARCH  
1969





A PEACEFUL SCENE in Assam, India, in 1945. Photo by Clare W. Leipnitz.



# EX-CBI ROUNDUP

CHINA · BURMA · INDIA

Vol. 24, No. 3

March, 1969

Ex-CBI ROUNDUP, established 1946, is a reminiscing magazine published monthly except AUGUST and SEPTEMBER at 117 South Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, by and for former members of U. S. Units stationed in the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II. Ex-CBI Roundup is the official publication of the China-Burma-India Veterans Association.

Neil L. Maurer ..... Editor

SECOND CLASS postage paid at Laurens, Iowa.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATE

\$4.00 per Year	Foreign \$5.00 per Year
\$7.50 Two Years	\$9.00 Two Years

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Ex-CBI Roundup

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P. O. Box 125

Laurens, Iowa 50554

## Letter FROM The Editor . . .

● **Big Stacks** of mail (cover picture) were rich reward for Merrill's Marauders, whose 20-day 112-mile march through tough jungles caught the Japs by surprise at Myitkyina, Burma, and paved the way for aerial invasion. This U.S. Air Force photo was taken in June 1944.

● **Missionaries** will henceforth be severely handicapped in India, where the conversion of persons from one religion to another is limited by laws recently passed by two state governments. The "Religious Freedom Bill" will make conversions to Christianity virtually impossible. The law provides for prohibition of religious conversion through "force, allurement or fraudulent means," and bans the conversion of women under 18. A dispatch from Religious News Service says that "its overall effect, according to many observers, may prevent missionaries from undertaking conversion activities at all." Prison sentences of up to one year are stipulated for contravening the bill's provisions, and every conversion is to be reported to law officials.

● **A strange tale** has come from New Delhi, where a former member of the Bihar legislative assembly reported that herds of wild elephants have killed four children, destroyed barns and farmyards, and created panic among villagers around the forests of Hazaribagh in India's Bihar State. This is near Ramgahr, and CBIers who were there during the war tell us they never saw elephants in that area.

● **Don't forget** about the 1969 CBI reunion at Vail!



Hugh L. Whytock

● Hugh L. Whytock, 59, of Sandy, Utah, died December 25, 1968, in a Salt Lake City hospital of cancer. He was born in Salt Lake City, attended the University of Utah, and was a lieutenant colonel in CBI during World War II. For 20 years he had been an employee of U.S. Mines at Lark. Survivors include his wife, the former Inez Beers; two sons, two daughters and 13 grandchildren.

(From a newspaper clipping submitted by Lt. Col. John K. Hammer, Kearney, Neb.)

## All Served Together

● Was surprised to receive a clipping from Lt. Col. R. S. Bunker, Salt Lake City, Utah, regarding the recent death of Lt. Col. Hugh L. Whytock, Sandy, Utah. We all served in the Y Forces in 1943, and conducted an Infantry Training Center for the 5th Chinese Army.

JOHN K. HAMMER,  
Lt. Col., USAR (Ret.),  
Kearney, Nebr.

## Story of India

● Would suggest to Ex-CBI Roundup readers a story in True Magazine, January 1969 issue. Was not too much on temples myself, but found this article in True very good reading. Sorry I missed this place in India. Some may have been there if I know GI's. The place: Khajuraho, in the Chattarpur district of Madhya Pradesh state in north central India.

CHARLES W. ROSE,  
Knoxville, Md.

## Green Memories

● Thanks for the splendid job you do for us in keeping our memories green!

LESLIE F. KIPP,  
Appleton, Wis.





PEDESTRIAN detours around a cow on a street in Karachi, then a part of India but now in Pakistan. Photo by Joseph N. Mackrell.

#### Dr. John H. Grindlay

● Dr. John H. Grindlay, 59, an associate of famed Dr. Gordon Seagrave during World War II, died December 15, 1968, at his home in a mountain canyon near Carbondale, Colo. Dr. Grindlay, who spent two years in Burma, retired 10 years ago from the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. He had been in failing health following a series of heart attacks and strokes. A native of Philadelphia, he had lived in Youngstown, Ohio, since childhood. Dr. Grindlay gained worldwide attention in 1942 when, as an aide to Dr. Seagrave, he helped rescue five native nurses. Subsequently their work in the Burmese jungle where he was a major and commanding officer of the base hospital was featured in Life magazine in 1943. In

one 30-hour period the team performed 120 operations on combat casualties. Temperatures reached 136 degrees in the sun and dropped to 40 at night with rain falling unceasingly. Dr. Grindlay was mentioned frequently in Dr. Seagrave's book, "Burma Surgeon." A 1931 graduate of Oberlin College, he received his medical degree at Harvard in 1935. He had five years in experimental surgery at Mayo before volunteering for service and was assigned to the staff of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell. After his escape through the jungles to New Delhi, India, in 1942, he went back to field hospital work in northern Burma and finally returned to the States in 1944. That year he was named second in command at McGuire General Hospital in Rich-

mond, Va. Following the war he went back to Mayo Clinic as a surgeon, remaining there until his retirement. Survivors include his wife, the former Elizabeth Ellis of Milwaukee, Wis., whom he married in 1939, two daughters, a son, two sisters and a brother.

(From an article in the Youngstown, Ohio, Vindicator submitted by Ethel G. Yavorsky, Poland, Ohio.)

#### Year of the Rooster

● The correct way to say Happy New Year for the coming Chinese celebration in San Francisco is "Sun neen fai lok" and "Fai lok gaiee neen" means Happy Year of the Rooster. The 10-day event starts February 22, 1969, in San Francisco's Chinatown. The parade is set for Saturday evening, March 1.

RAY KIRKPATRICK,  
San Francisco, Calif.

#### William J. Payne

● This brief note is to inform you that William J. Payne passed away on August 9, 1968. His passing was a great loss to all of us, and I am sure will be also to those members or ex-members of CBI.

L. STUART,  
Supervisor Branch Court  
West Los Angeles, Calif.

#### Mahoning Valley

● Officers for the Mahoning Valley Basha, China-Burma-India Veterans Association, were installed on January 18. They are: Frank Breyer, commander; Kenneth Shimp, senior vice commander; Carl Beck, junior vice commander; George Tabak, judge advocate; Amelia Catelani, provost marshal; Joe Nivert, adjutant and finance officer; Richard Baker, service officer; Ethel Yavorsky, public relations and historian; William Phelps, chaplain; and Joyce Breyer, recording secretary.

JOE NIVERT,  
Youngstown, Ohio

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RAILROAD station at Darjeeling, India, with train pulling in. Photo by Stan Paszkewicz.

#### Harry Baron

● This is to inform you that my husband, Harry Baron, a CBI veteran, died of cancer recently. We did enjoy reading the interesting articles in Ex-CBI Roundup for many years, for which I thank you.

SABINA BARON,  
Chicago, Ill.

#### James Ramere

● James Ramere of York, S.C. passed away October 13, 1968. He was a member of Headquarters Company, 502nd M.P. Battalion, and served in India from 1943 to 1945.

WM. H. ADAM,  
Audubon, N.J.

#### Help Wanted

● The combo that played in the hospitality rooms in Des Moines last August (Ken Schwittau of Milwaukee, Wis., John Morrissey of Kearney, Neb., and myself) have been asked to play on Wednesday, August 6, at Vail, Colo., for the national CBIVA hospitality room. We NEED a drummer or a bass. The job will pay 70 rupees (1945 value). Any CBI vet who can play (or perhaps his son), please contact me.

RAY ALDERSON,  
1397 Delhi Ct.  
Dubuque, Iowa

#### Iowa Basha

● Spring meeting of the Iowa Basha will be Saturday, April 19, at Amana. Registration will start at the Ox Yoke Inn at 2 p.m. Slides of the national CBIVA reunion in Des Moines will be shown, plus movie on Vail, Colo. Sahib Wm. Leichsenring promises another family-style meal of steak, chicken and ham at no increase in price. There will also be election of officers for a two-year period.

RAY ALDERSON,  
Dubuque, Iowa

#### 468th and 58th

● Members of the 468th Bomb Group (VH) and fellow associates of the 58th Bomb Wing are invited to join us for our 13th annual reunion to be held Thursday, July 24, through Sunday, July 27, 1969, at the Charter House Motel, 1700 South Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, Calif. To sustain the tradition of past reunions we suggest you bring albums, slides, motion picture films, etc., to help recall "a time that was not so long ago." Chairman of the reunion is Malen Powell, 840 Dean Dr., Denver, Colo. 80233. The undersigned is secretary.

DENNY D. PIDHAYNY,  
1136 So. Burnside Ave.,  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90019

#### 111th Station Hospital

● In the November issue Homer S. Whitmore said he was a patient at 95th Station Hospital and that it changed to 11th Station Hospital. I'm sure he meant 111th Station Hospital because my outfit was the one that replaced the 95th in 1943 and that was the 111th. It later became the 234th General Hospital. Hope to be in Vail next August.

JERRY LAROTONDA,  
Bocaon, N.Y.



NEPALESE women offer fruits and vegetables for sale at a market in Darjeeling, India. Photo by Stan Paszkewicz.



# Vail Is "IN" This Year!

By **DICK POPPE**

If you think of Vail, Colorado, and all that comes to mind is skiing, bobsledding, snowmobiles and eye-catching attire—you're partially correct.

The winter sports are still there in abundance—but things have changed at Vail in recent years.

On one hand Vail is a vital exciting winter wonderland, primarily catering to the national and international ski buff, set on challenging the high country and for the exhilarating downward trek to the valley below.

On the other you will find a village of dedicated friendly people who in the past few years have developed Vail into what is considered one of the leading "Year Round" resort areas of the nation today.

During the summer months, the village is alive with color and action featuring numerous fun-loving out-door activities custom-made and keenly edged to satisfy the hunger of tourists of all ages.

If your preference is tennis, golf, swimming, sailing or horseback riding, you will find them all at Vail.

If you're a shutter-bug and want to capture the beauty of the surrounding mountain range on film, you can tour the high country by jeep or auto.

Fun-loving at Vail doesn't come to a halt when the sun goes down.

The narrow winding streets of Vail offer a wide range of intimate night-life establishments, lounges and restaurants for your convenience.

For the CBI-ers who just want to relax, reminisce and re-kindle old friendships, you will find just the right atmosphere you are looking for, plus your favorite beverage . . . Some of the most habitual spots are—The Bear Trap Bar, La Cave, Wedel Inn and the Lion's Den, just to name a few.

The mere mention of food around CBI-ers in the past has brought inquiries such as "where and how far". This will not be the case at Vail. All you have to do is open your eyes, and there it is. Restaurants all around, offering a variety of national and international cuisine.

Lodging is no problem at Vail—a variety of spacious and elaborately furnished lodge and apartment complexes (many with swimming pool), are moderately priced for your comfort. The fol-

lowing are some of the places CBIers will be staying: The Lodge at Vail, Riva Ridge, Wedel Inn, Golden Peak House, Gasthof Gramshammer, The Plaza, Vailhalla at Vail and the Christiania at Vail.

Other interesting facts about Vail: At the village you will find a comprehensive medical center; ambulance service, baby-sitting, beauty shop, night clubs and dancing, drug store, book shop, liquor stores, shopping center, theater, delicatessen, Catholic and Protestant Sunday services.

In addition to what Vail has to offer, CBI delegates will have a built-in program of pleasure and business which has become a tradition with the association.

We of the association have been to the Roof of the World while serving in the CBI. Let's all plan now to visit the Roof of America—Vail, Colorado! □

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*From The Statesman*

NEW DELHI—"An incense-man is a familiar figure in the Delhi bazaars. Holding a copper thali, with a lump of black-coloured incense burning at the centre, he goes from shop to shop every morning. His coming is eagerly awaited by shopkeepers—and his itinerary is of necessity long and arduous. At each shop, the incense-man chants a few sholkas and then briskly moves his thali, often entwined by a marigold garland in half-circles, as scented smoke swirls upward to fill the air. This breath of incense is believed to usher in good fortune. To woo fortune, Delhi's shopkeepers must have some pet nostrums. The day's first customer must at any cost be persuaded to buy—even if that means a slash in prices. The visit of the incense-man is another ritual which the shopkeepers go through."—Indian Notebook.

NEW DELHI—India is taking steps to counter the alleged under-cutting in fares by some Middle East airlines operating on the India-U.K. route. People of Indian origin travelling by Air-India from the U. K. to India will be able to get a discount of about 40% of the value of the ticket. The discount will be paid in rupees. The scheme will be operated through the London office of the State Bank of India. To be able to get the discount, the passenger will have to make the initial payment in foreign exchange to the State Bank in London. Pakistan also operates a somewhat similar scheme, under which the discount amounts to about 37%.

NEW DELHI—American women in Delhi are putting in a tremendous effort in helping poor families to be on their own. The jobs of these voluntary workers vary from rehabilitating lepers to conducting literacy drives, from working in orphanages and hospitals to organizing charity balls and bazaars. The bazaar held on the lawn of Roosevelt House has over 50 charitable organizations, including UNICEF, the Blind Relief Association, Bethany Village (Leprosy Project), Delhi Police Welfare Co-operative Society and the Tibetan Craft Community participating. It is a sales outlet for products made by them. Proceeds are distributed among the institutions which help the disabled and the needy.

MARCH, 1969

HYDERABAD—Nearly half of the villages in the country do not have basic facilities like bus stops, post offices, marketing centres, doctors, radios or railway stations. Madhya Pradesh has no doctors in 98% of the villages and in West Bengal 96% of the villages do not have radios. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Madras ranked as states with good facilities; Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were considered poor; the rest of the states average. In Kerala 20% of the village had doctors, but in all other states less than 11% had doctors. More than 30% of the villagers in all states except Kerala and West Bengal had to go eight km, or more to consult a doctor. Only 8% of the villages have post offices in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, while more than half had them in Andhra Pradesh and Madras. Radios were found in 50% of the villages in three states, but in a good number of states three fourths of the villages were without radio.

GAYA—Bihar State has leased two acres at the Buddhist Shrine town of Bodh Gaya to the Japanese government for 99 years at \$520 annual rent as the site of a pagoda and rest house to be completed by next December under auspices of Emperor Hirohito. Bodh Gaya, where the Buddha is said to have achieved enlightenment 25 centuries ago, now has shrines of four foreign countries—Thailand, Burma, Tibet and China. Ceylon seeks a plot to build a Buddhist monastery there.

NEW DELHI—The Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, would prefer to defer the building of schools and hospitals, and even roads "for some time" so that the country can invest adequately in irrigation and power. Notes from Andhra and Assam have emphasized the problem of the small farmer. They agree that intensive development is necessary in more promising agricultural areas, but it is necessary to see that the new inputs reach the small cultivator and sharecropper.

NEW DELHI—India has tightened picketing on the Indo-Nepalese border to check unauthorized trade along it. Apart from the border checkpoints already in existence, a number of mobile pickets have been activated. Provisions of the Indo-Nepalese treaty on trade and transit have practically no restriction on the movement of goods originating from one country and intended for consumption in the other. India has imposed restrictions on certain articles, such as jute and tent cloth, after it was noticed that quantities much larger than needed by Nepal were going in.



# 502nd Military Police Battalion

By WM. H. ADAM

This is the story of the 502nd Military Police Battalion, from 1943 to 1945, with brief mention of the part it played in the China-Burma-India Theater.

We started our basic training at Camp McCain, Miss., in January, 1943. When we first saw what was to be our new home, it was just a puddle of mud. We spent many of our off duty hours in the nearby town of Granada, and also many of us went into Memphis, Tenn., or Jackson, Miss.

In Memphis one could see the riverboats on the Mississippi River passing close to shore. During our stay at Camp McCain we took hikes, and learned for the first time to drive large trucks. For relaxation we attended movies, went to the PX, and also had a dayroom.

In the early part of July, 1943, we left by train and headed west. We passed through Texas, Arizona, and part of New Mexico; then up through California to Camp Anza at Arlington, Calif. This camp was located 50 miles below Los Angeles. We stayed here three weeks, and during this time we visited Riverside. On the road to Riverside we passed through an avenue of trees which really had a touch of beauty.

We boarded the U.S.S. Hermitage at Los Angeles, Calif., July 27, 1943; and we set sail for parts unknown.

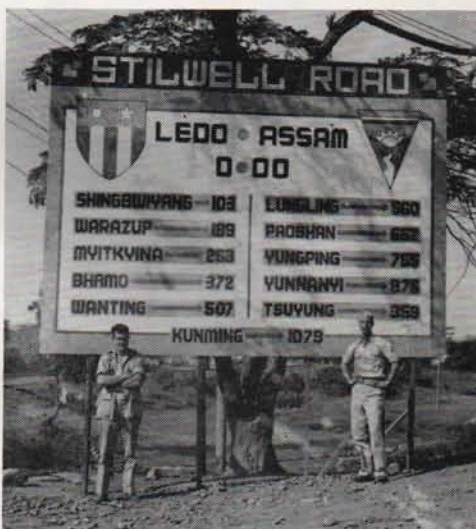
Our first stop was Wellington, New Zealand. We came into this beautiful harbor, and could see many different houses on the hill—all in bright colors. Also, one could see a train going up the side of the mountain. We will never forget the rich ice cream and butter we took on board ship at this city. We also took a walk through the main part of town out to the point of the harbor. After a short stay we continued our trip on the Pacific Ocean. Aboard ship we played cards, read books, or were just content to watch the fish jumping by the side of the ship and wondering what we would see next.

Our next port of call was Melbourne, Australia. We were allowed at this time to walk on the docks and see at a glance the city down under. We then sailed around to the other side of Australia to Fremantle, which was a submarine base. While at this location we all went in swimming in the Indian Ocean, and was the water ever warm! Here we were joined by two other ships—the Brazil and the Uruguay—and from here our con-

voy again headed out on the Pacific Ocean for parts unknown.

Then one afternoon was a sight we will never forget. In the distance were temples rising out of the water and, as we came closer, we were told this was the city of Bombay in the land of enchantment—far away India. Here we were given Indian money and a nine-hour pass to see the city. We walked up the main street, and were impressed by the many strange sights that we saw. Of course, we all bought some articles for a remembrance of this strange and beautiful place. We then took a train from Bombay and traveled 100 miles to a British rest camp called Deolali. Here many of us had sickness from the food. While here we took hikes and studied map reading. During our stay here we visited the Bazaar at Nassic City. We also went to the movies, and ate in the Chinese restaurants. While at this camp, we were entertained by a bagpipe band. We left Deolali October 14, 1943, and headed for Calcutta.

After a short stay we again started our journey and arrived at Pandu. Here we changed railroads and went north and finally arrived at Ledo (Harmony Church area). While at Ledo we visited the Bazaar at Margurita and also visited villages nearby and pulled guard



AN IMPORTANT area in the history of the 502nd Military Police Battalion was the Stilwell Road. Here two members of the battalion stop to rest before a sign on that road.

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duty at different posts. Just before Christmas, two squads sailed down the Brahmaputra River to Calcutta, and shortly after went by train to General Stilwell's Headquarters at Ramgarh.

Those who went to Ramgarh were Lt. Bacon, Sgt. Kolodziej, Sgt. Merle Knipple, Sgt. George Yurick, T/4 Joseph Lanze, Jr., PFC. Wilmer Jensen, PFC. Andrew Kovach, PFC. William Long, PFC. Ralph Jones, PFC. Andrew Mucha, PFC. Leonard Owens, PFC. Robert Sabo, PFC. William Shacklock, PFC. Paul Sherr, Pvt. William Adam, Pvt. Robert Chadwick, Pvt. William Moss, Pvt. Julius Nagy, Pvt. Coolidge Rollman, Pvt. Francis Slavin, Pvt. Ray Bledsoe, Pvt. Glenn Minnich, Corp. John Willits, Corp. Jerry Trimarco, Pvt. Gilbert Heiberger, Pvt. Henry Lytle.

We arrived at Ramgarh 7:00 a.m. and went directly to Brick Barracks. When we had cleaned up, we were taken to the mess hall; and sat down at tables set with plates and silverware. We almost flipped when the waiters said, "How do you want your eggs?". We said, "Gee! any way will be fine." While here, we saw several U.S.O. Shows, including Paulette Goddard and Melvin Douglas. We pulled road patrol and guard duty, and worked with the Chinese M. P.'s and learned enough of their tongue to hold a conversation with them. We had nice quarters and good food, and our own EM Club. Here we played cards and ate hamburgers and drank cokes. We also spent time at the "Greasy Spoon" and "The Monsoon Inn". After nine months the two squads split up, some going to the 167 M.P. Co. at Chabua; and others going back up the road into Burma and China.

On June 3, 1944, C Co. was relieved of duty at Ledo and assigned to traffic duty on the Ledo Road. The rest of the 502nd stayed at Ledo. On September 13, 1944, C Co. was redesignated as the 700th M.P. Co. At the same time back at 502nd M.P. Headquarters, men were sent to form the 167th M.P. Co. at Chabua. Others were sent to other outfits. C Co., which later became the newly formed 700th M.P. Co., pulled duty at Logali, Namlip, Namyung, Tagap, Kumkido, Nathkaw, Shingbuiyang, Tasic River, Yubang Ga, Tawang River, Tingkaw Sakan, Warazup, Mogaung, Namti, Myitkyina, Kazoo, Nalong, Myothit, Bhamo, Mu-Se, Namkham, Mong-Yo, Wanfing, all in Burma; and Toppa, Paoshan, Yengpi and Tsu Yung in China.

When we arrived at Chabua, we saw many familiar faces; and during our stay here pulled road patrol, traffic duties; and worked at the stockade. It was here that we saw the U.S.O. Show with Jinx Falkenburg and Pat O'Brien, along with

Jimmie Dodd, Ruth Carroll and Betty Yeaton. While here we visited Panatola, Dinjan, Tinsukia and Dibrugarh. After a year here we flew to Karachi and pulled traffic duty on Malir Cantonment. While here we visited Karachi many times, or just plain sightseeing. It was here that we met the others of the old 502nd when they were coming home. After saying hello to them they boarded their ship and sailed home. A short time later we boarded the General Callan and also set sail for the good old U.S.A. Our ports of call were Singapore, Pearl Harbor and finally Seattle, Washington. We stayed at Fort Lawton a few days. Then boarded a troop train and made the journey home through the Dakotas and Montana, where we saw our first snow in 2½ years. Then through Minnesota, Illinois and finally to New York, then back to Pennsylvania. We were discharged at Indian Town Gap on February 8, 1946. □



**MADRAS**—The State Government's decision to organize lotteries did not spark off much opposition in the initial stages and was even welcomed as a sensible move to raise additional resources. But wide publicity given to the first two lotteries in which many penurious citizens won windfall first prizes has roused the dormant gambling instinct of the people and there has been an unprecedented scramble for lottery tickets. Cinema houses have complained of falling revenues because the public is investing money on raffle tickets. There have been reports of poor people investing their entire wages on tickets. The State Government can hardly afford to abandon the scheme since its treasury is far from full. The fear of losing revenue has also been responsible for the Government's decision not to implement its election promise to ban horse racing in the State.

**ROURKELA**—Manufacture of a smokeless coal for domestic use has been planned through a private sector enterprise here. This will replace the hard coke now being supplied by the Hindustan Steel Ltd. to its employees at a subsidized rate. For manufacture of smokeless coal, dust coke forms the raw material and it is available in plenty in the Rourkela steel plant.



# Human Sacrifice at Madha

*What is believed to have been a human sacrifice, performed in a remote area of India, is described in two stories from The Statesman of Calcutta and New Delhi. Written by V. S. Maniam, the first was written in September, shortly after the crime was discovered, and the second after a thorough check on the area in which it occurred.*

**By V. S. MANIAM**  
**From The Statesman**

UDAIPUR, Sept. 28—Madha is a small and almost unknown village in South Rajasthan, in the heart of the mountains of Mewar. It is a place of haunting beauty, surrounded on every side by lush green hills; and is itself set on some half dozen hillocks, with almost every doorway commanding a magnificent view. Madhda's 500-odd inhabitants, generally small farmers eking out a precarious living from their hill-slope lands, have been a happy and relatively care-free people for as long as they—and others around them—can remember.

Madhda is not happy or care-free any longer. Its jungle idyll has been shattered by what many of them believe to be a 'Nar-balf' (human sacrifice). The human sacrificed was a boy of 12 years.

Described as a handsome, brown-complexioned boy, and a willing helper around his house and fields, he was in the fourth standard in the local primary school; and was working during the recent summer vacations on the construction site of a small dam near by. It was at that dam site that he is alleged to have been killed last May 21—as, according to the villagers, a sacrifice to propitiate the spirits which had stalled work on the dam.

This was the first murder in the village in living memory—and the first perhaps in the entire Kotda tehsil to which the village belongs.

I spent several hours yesterday at Madhda (after a bone-cracking four-hour journey in a jeep along a truly kachha road laid years ago as a "famine" project), climbing hillock after hillock to talk to the shocked villagers and to the benumbed father of the boy, and visiting the dam site a few miles away, where the deed was allegedly done.

That dam, incidentally, is a cruel joke; it is not so much a dam but a paltry anicut, 75 feet long and 12 feet wide and, in its present incomplete state, barely five feet high. The "river" it is supposed to "dam" is but a small stream without a name, which the villagers simply call

"Vera" or rivulet. As is all too plain, it is a shoddy construction—of boulders and sand freely available on the stream's bed itself—with cement visible only on the sides. Villagers said the contract for the construction was worth no more than Rs 27,000—a dam, and a job hardly worth the sacrifice of even a goat, as many in the region kept saying. Yet, the 12-year old Khuman Singh had been sacrificed at that "dam", according to the villagers.

That paltry "dam" is a fact. Buffaloes wallowed in the small pool above the anicut, which is about the only purpose it serves; the overflow from the pool gurgled down in a thin stream along the right bank. In the frightening stillness of the place, the water's is the only sound. Another verifiable fact is the "Sati Mata"—a crude triangular stone slab—planted in the bank right next to the flowing stream. It is also that after work began and proceeded briskly through April and the first half of May it was obstructed by the sudden accumulation of a large amount of water at a point near the southern end of the slowly rising anicut. Sohan Lal, middle-aged ex-constable (and apparently Madhda's only tailor), told me: "The contractor brought in two oil pump sets and tried for days to drain the water. But the water level would not subside". The crude foundation at that point was badly damaged by the water. And the rains were only six weeks away.

Also a fact is the boy's telling his mother on the evening of May 20 that he would not be home next evening, for a man, also working on the anicut, had offered to take him somewhere to fetch him a 12-rupee-a-month job. The mother had some premonition and tried hard to dissuade him.

May 21 was pay day at the site. Khuman Singh and another village boy, Mohanlal Meghwal, also 12 years old, were the last to be paid, after 6 p.m. Khuman had worked for 16 days in all, but was paid only for two at the rate of 62 paise a day, with two weeks wages held back. One last verified fact is that somebody called Khuman back by saying: "Come and collect your two weeks' wages also". Khuman went back, while the other boy came away. Khuman has not been heard of since.

The rest is villagers' story, pieced together from the confessions of a major suspect, the man whom Khuman had mentioned as having promised to procure a job for him.



A little after eight that evening, as some 40-odd labourers from adjacent Nathdwara did bhajans, at their camp on top of a hillock near the anicut ("there was also a kind of feast in which a village sarpanch and a panchayat supervisor participated" added one Madhda man) five men took the boy to the water-filled foundation pit and laid him next to it. Four men held the boy down, the fifth allegedly sat on his chest and slit the boy's neck with a knife. A sixth—allegedly the contractor—dipped a finger in the gushing blood and drew a swastika on the stones. He is then alleged to have taken more blood on a leaf and walked the entire length of the stone-work sprinkling blood. The body, the villagers allege, was dumped into the water-filled pit, kept there for two days. When its stink began to be felt by labourers it was removed to a cave in the forest near by, called Baghon-ki-Bagar; (tiger's palace).

It was to this place that the main suspect is alleged to have led the police 43 days later, at the end of a long interrogation. The boy's skeleton was found there and his clothes too. □

\* \* \*

By V. S. MANIAM

UDAIPUR—The incident in May in which Khuman Singh, a boy of 12, was said to have been sacrificed at the site of a small dam in Madhda village, 40 miles from here, has befuddled the people of this district as much as the angry outsider. Nobody is able to say precisely what could have led to the foul deed and speculation is the only alternative left.

Udaipur's Collector, Mr. R. R. Jain, for instance, attributes the event to the general backwardness of the people of this area. "Kotda tehsil especially is very backward," he said.

The area is of course economically backward. If you ask an average Madhda man how much land he owns, his answer is an impressive "10 bighas" or "15 bighas." The dead boy's father told me: "I first had 9½ bighas. Then I added 10 more to it. I had four sons and each had to have enough land." But the greater part of that land is on hill slopes and used only for growing the fodder grass for cattle. Even the rest is on very uneven ground and a somewhat poor quality of maize and short-term crops like tumeric and chilly are grown there. Villagers say they consider themselves lucky if they get a quintal of grain from each bigha. Again, 30 of the 100-odd families living in Madhda have no land whatever—not even grass land on the slopes.

Only one Madhda man (as far as I

could find out) is in "service," he is the manager of a cooperative society in Kotda. Another man works as a truck driver. The others are wedded to their land, doing their own heart-breaking variety of agriculture.

The area is educationally backward as well. The 50-strong community has only an elementary school, up to the fifth standard. There is a middle school more than a mile away. For higher studies you have to go to Udaipur, which, from Madha seems a different world altogether. The village tailor said Madhda could boast of only one person with university education. "An M.A.; he is a lecturer at Nathdwara." Then he said: "Otherwise, I am sure, there is not a single graduate in this tehsil!"

Madhda's backwardness presumably derives from its relative inaccessibility. Its only link with the outside world is a rickety bus that plies twice daily on a deadly road. During the rainy season even that is ruled out. "For some nine weeks, we are also completely cut off", the people complain.

Despite all this, Madhda people seem a gentle lot, not at all likely to kill human beings to propitiate gods. "But", some people in Udaipur point out, "this is a predominantly Bhil area. The Bhils are extremely superstitious by nature; and you cannot rule out their influence on other people living in this region."

According to local officials the Bhils believe that "banias" have some occult power of holding back the rain; a belief that has resulted in at least two serious incidents during the past month at Kotda and Jadhul in this district. On both occasions a violent crowd of Bhils is said to have stormed the house of some "banias," thinking that the latter were responsible for the present drought. The Collector confirmed this, but said: "The Bhils actually give only a token 'punishment' to the banias for holding back the rain. Then they ask him to 'release' the rain and even demand a written 'release'".

Was the influence of these Bhils a factor in the death of the 12-year-old boy? One can only speculate. Incidentally, the alleged killer is not a Bhil although three of the men said to have been present at the spot are described as "tribals." Along the road to Madhda, there are quite a few crude hillside shrines of the Bhils. On the day I went to Madhda I stumbled upon what seemed a forbiddingly primitive worship. Over 500 Bhils were gathered at a hillside shrine and they looked with suspicion at the intruder. As I stood there it seemed quite possible that the practice of human sacrifice, which is believed to have come to an end more than two centuries ago, still flourished in the area. □





WAITING for a meal are Ludden, Whittlesey, Domke, Hitch and Gress.



LUDDEN is pictured with Political Commissar Chiang Chi Hsing and President Yin Hsi P'eng of International Peace Hospital Medical College.



PETERKIN (center) poses with T'ang Tze An, a brigade commander, and Wang Shiang.

## YENAN to

A group of seven American soldiers in military uniforms standing outside a simple, single-story building with a dark doorway. They are waiting for a meal.

Commanding the group was Wilbur J. Peterkin, now a Major. Other soldiers were Ray Ludden of the U.S. Army, Brooke Dolan of the Air Force, and others of the Signal Corps, Lieutenant Whittlesey of the Army, and Sgt. Walter Gress, radio operator.

The trip was from Yen-an to Fuping (near Peking). On the return trip of 1,840 miles, they left Yen-an at Fuping Nov. 11, covering 30, 1944, and arrived back at Fuping Nov. 15. The last 471 li or 157 miles was on foot.

While at Fuping the Americans saw chemical factories, arms and ammunition training schools, etc., within a few miles of Japanese-occupied towns.

Pictures shown on these pages are from the trip.



EX-CBI ROUNDUP



# FUPING

cans traveled deep into  
in 1944 on a special mis-  
sion. They were sent to de-  
termine if the Communists were  
and whether the action

was Col. (then Lt. Col.)  
Sumner, Wash. Others  
State Department, Capt.  
Clifford Domke  
Hitch of the U.S. Navy,  
Air Ground Aid Service  
operator.

the Communist capital,  
traveling mostly by mule  
Oct. 6, 1944, and arrived  
787 li or about 590 miles.  
I, they left Fuping Dec.  
in Yen-an Jan. 23, 1945.  
The return was by jeep.  
Cans inspected hospitals,  
munitions factories, mil-  
itary bases. These were operating  
from strong points and gar-

pages were taken dur-

COLONEL Peterkin is shown  
left, standing in entrance to  
overnight quarters at Fuping.  
The building has curtain in  
doorway to keep out the cold.

SMILING gentleman at left, be-  
low, is Dr. Ch'en Ch'i Yuan,  
head of the International  
Peace Hospital near Fuping.

AN EQUALLY friendly smile  
that displayed by Jen Ping,  
head nurse at the International  
Peace Hospital.



MARCH, 1969



SCHOOL in old temple of Hopei province has no heat, no desks or visual aids, few textbooks.



PETERKIN confers with Wu Ch'en Chin, 19-year-old hero who had killed five Japanese in ambush of enemy convoy the day before.



FOUR nurses, 21 and 22 years of age, at International Peace Hospital.



# Predicts Recovery of Mainland

*President Chiang Kai-shek of the Republic of China, in a New Year's Day message to his people, predicted that recovery of the mainland is not far away. He said internal and external struggles of the Chinese Communists indicate that Mao Tse-tung has reached the end of his road. The following is the text of his message, as reported by the Chinese Information Service.*

My fellow countrymen:

This is the 58th New Year's Day since our Founding Father resurrected China and consummated the National Revolution with establishment of the Republic. This is also the anniversary of the Republic's founding.

The Republic of China has had to endure more than a half century of hardship, danger and sorrow. Yet these adversities also have brought into the open and disciplined the integrity and the moral energy that are found in the soul of our nation.

During these last 20 years, we have achieved notable successes in our Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu bastion of anti-Communism and mainland recovery. These accomplishments have been based on feelings of equality, security and harmony growing out the system of ethics, democracy and science set forth in "San Min Chu I" (Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Three Principles of the People.) This progress also attests to the attainment of Dr. Sun's ideals and principles pertaining to national reconstruction and demonstrates that we can move from national recovery to national reconstruction. So it is that we are providing hope for our mainland compatriots as they struggle to free themselves from the tyranny of the Mao regime. Our compatriots are looking toward the dawn, toward the new day when they can bask again in the love of the nation and live once more under the white sun and blue sky emblem.

For these two decades, our compatriots have endured terror and despotic abuse of power without surcease. Never for a moment shall we forget the misery of these comrades and relatives. During the course of what the Communists call the 'great cultural revolution' and 'violent struggle' of the last three years, the 'Red Guards' have carried out orders to persecute workers, peasants, intellectuals and cadres of various levels together with their children, students, teachers and especially those of the so-called 'seven black categories'. Group after

group has been herded into the countryside and the mountains. Tens of millions have been callously sent into slavery in harsh frontier regions. Our nation and our people are condemned to a role of martyrdom in this unprecedented, incredible tragedy; what is it that prompts Mao to oppress the descendants of Yen Ti and Huang Ti (ancestors of the Chinese people) and why he is so relentless and cruel? The answer is that Mao has reached the end of his road. He seeks to convene the 'ninth national congress' of 'rebellion' and 'power seizure' as part of a deathbed struggle to preserve power and to establish his unique, monolithic empire. In hope of finding a panacea, he is resorting to the tactics of Shih Huang Ti, who burned the books, who buried scholars alive and who terrified the people by killing those who were apprehended in whispered discussion.

But why has the 'ninth national congress' not been convened even after a lapse of 12 years? If the congress were to be modeled after the 'enlarged 12th plenary session of the eighth Chinese Communist Party central committee', it could be convened at any moment. The people have been told not to be concerned about elections and the delegates to the plenary session were hand-picked. This session of non-descriptors was called together in disregard of the statutory number of delegates required. What really stands in the way of the 'ninth national congress' is the people's unceasing opposition to Mao. During the last 19 years, purge has followed purge, struggle has followed arrest and persecution has followed persecution. Yet Mao's opponents have continued to oppose him. Those who are against power-seizure continue to obstruct it. The nation as a whole—including enslaved 'workers', 'peasants' and 'soldiers'—is waging a continuous life-or-death struggle against oligarchy. For Mao, the crucial problem is that he doesn't know how to prevent even his closest comrades-in-arms—including Lin Piao—from becoming renegades and joining the company of Peng Teh-huai, Huang Ke-cheng, Liu Shao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping once the congress is over. These Mao associates have no assurance that they will not be urged as have the others.

Mao's difficulties are further complicated by his 19 years of overt and covert conflict with such people as Kao Kang, Jao Shu-shih, Peng Teh-huai, Huang Ke-cheng, Lo Jui-ching, Tan Chen-lin, Liu Shao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping. He has



been compelled to retreat to a "second front", from where he has rebelled against and "seized power" from the powerholding faction of Liu and Teng. He instigated tens of millions of "Red Guards" to undertake a two-year rampage that smashed the organizations of the Communist regime, yet failed to strike down Liu Shao-chi. Although Liu was stripped of his duties at the "enlarged 12th plenary session", his agents have not been vanquished and are to be found everywhere. For these reasons, Mao dared not call the regular "12th plenary session". As an alternative, he summoned the "enlarged 12th plenary session" with handpicked delegates who would speak in his voice, give him courage and serve his insane self-interest.

Mao has repeatedly voiced intention to call the 'ninth national congress' ever since the "Red Guards" were created in 1966. First he said the congress would be convened by October 1 of that year. Then he said it would be held not later than May 1, 1967. When that meeting failed to take place, Mao changed the date to September 5. But there was no congress then nor on October 1. This was because the Party was disintegrating; outside the Party, the people were rising against Mao in a powerful and angry wave. He was afraid to call the meeting even at the end of 1968 and still has not solved this problem.

Mao Tse-tung fears that the Party will downgrade and denigrate him after his death. He is afraid that those outside the Party will seek revenge for gruesome and sanguinary sufferings inflicted upon the people. Man's universe is peopled by 'Quislings', 'renegades' and 'demons'. His life is haunted by the ghosts of the 'revisionists', 'capitalists' and 'Kuomintang agents' he imprisoned, tortured and murdered. Such circumstances compel him, even against his will, to convene the "ninth national congress" as soon as possible. The congress will be Mao's last mortal act in his own tragic drama. The outcome is self-evident.

#### Heir Apparent

Fellow countrymen:

Since his usurpation of mainland power 19 years ago, Mao has attempted to alter, to obliterate or to destroy the history, the morality and the culture of the Chinese people. Heedless of the consequences, he is trying to efface the history and beliefs of Marxism-Leninism and the Communist International. This is opposed by his followers, the Marxist-Leninists and the International Communists. The "draft party charter" adopted by the 'enlarged 12th plenary session' provides corroborative evidence of his intentions.

The general principles of the draft charter stipulate that "only Mao Tse-tung's thought is to provide the Party with its theoretical basis and ideological guidance. Lin Piao, who has raised high the red banner of Mao's thought, is to be Mao's closest comrade-in-arms and his heir-apparent". This confirms that at the 'ninth national congress', Mao is to be the chief and Lin Piao the deputy chief. The general principles of the draft also stipulate that the charter is based on the thought and Party line of Mao Tse-tung. The 'ninth national congress' is obviously intended to be the personal organization and private tool of Mao. Even Stalin dared not resort to such reckless and fanatical irrationalism. Who can believe that the Mao party is representative of any 'class'?

The draft charter pays lip service to Marxism-Leninism but this is followed by assertions that Mao's thought is 'socialism marching toward the victory of Marxism-Leninism' and 'brings Marxism-Leninism forward to a new phrase'. Mao seeks to emasculate Marxism-Leninism and to usurp and negate Marxism-Leninist ideology. Who could regard Mao's party as one of Communist and Marxist-Leninist ideology? The Mao party does no more than parrot quotations from Mao and urge that these be used as incantations to cure disease, to increase production, to move machinery and elevate Mao to supreme leadership.

The draft charter categorically rejects any Peiping relationship with the Communist bloc and forecasts defeat of the "imperialists led by the United States" and of the "modern revisionists led by the traitors of the Soviet Union". No other Communist charter in history has declared war on the rest of the Communist bloc. In identifying the Communist International and the Communist bloc as his supreme antagonists, Mao has shamelessly turned his back on his erstwhile comrades and is seeking their destruction. In the event Mao should again attempt resort to the trickery of the Bandung 'five principles of peaceful coexistence' in the hope of gaining his objectives, could anyone believe him? Mao's embrace of peaceful coexistence could lead only to betrayal and destruction.

Article 1, Chapter 2, of the draft charter provides that Mao's party will be made up of 'workers', 'poor and lower-middle peasants' and 'soldiers'.

First, let us think of Mao's "soldiers". The "old caches" and "close comrades-in-arms" who long have followed Mao in the Party and in the armed forces at the risk of their lives are charged with having committed "black element" crimes. Now prostrate, they are told that



they are forever barred from regaining their former positions. Even some of the new members of the "cultural revolution group" have become waste products in the "cleaning up the rank and file" and "exhaling the old and inhaling the new" processes initiated by Mao and his wife Chiang Ching. Except for those who wear the pedigree of the "4th field army", who can be sure he is not a "waste product"? Even officers and men with a "4th field army" pedigree may fear charges of anti-Maoism that could sweep them away with the rest of the discards.

Second, let us look at the "workers". According to its original charter, the Chinese Communist Party was supposed to represent the "highest form of organization of the workers class". The workers did not lose their position during the conflict with the "Red Guards". Now, however, the new draft charter compels the "workers class" to accept co-equality with the "poor and lower-middle peasants" and the "soldiers". The traditional party charter of International Communism has been scrapped. At first the workers were targets of propaganda. Then they were abused by the "Red Guards." Now they have been told to go into schools of various levels, become "propaganda teams" for Mao's thought and attack the "Red Guards". The workers are permanently trapped in Mao's recurring and sanguinary movement to "entice a group and beat up a group". This amounts to annihilation among workers themselves.

Third, there the so-called "poor and lower-middle peasants". The draft charter implies that they are to remain in penury for the rest of their lives. To be classified as "poor and lower-middle peasants" is to be accorded protective celeration that saves them from a worse fate. But the present generation of "poor and lower-middle peasants" must watch its offspring grow without any prospect for a better life.

"Workers", "poor and lower-middle peasants" and "soldiers" have already tasted the dregs of Mao's deceit. Who would believe him and continue to be deceived?

The draft charter of 6 chapters and 12 articles (replacing one of 9 chapters and 60 articles) is replete with trickery and intrigue. The document is in effect a confession of Chinese Communist maliciousness and an admission that Peiping is alienated from the Communist International externally; at the same time it is destroying the Party machinery and antagonizing 700 million people internally. Its own members now understand that the Party is no longer one that fights for a class but is one that oppresses irrespective of class distinction,

that it is no longer a member of the International Communist family but an outsider that is trying to bury its progenitor. Even his handful of cronies cannot follow Mao and has turned against him. Mao is carrying out the 'rebellion' alone. If the 'ninth national congress' is convened, the new Communist machinery will be a worthless collection of instruments for 'power seizure' and 'instigation'. Who then could believe in the new doctrine of Red imperialist hegemony and Mao individualism and continue to support the Party?

Before convening of the "ninth national congress", Mao will have to take action against cadres who have shown an affinity for Peng Teh-huai, Huang Ke-cheng, Tao Chu, Ho Lung, Lo Jui-ching, Tan Chen-lin, Liu Shao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping. The revisionists must be struggled against and liquidated. After the congress, groups that have sided with these cadres will have to be eliminated. But whether old or new, Mao's cadres cannot be gotten rid of completely and Mao has to resort to the tactics of struggle and "send-down" on a large scale. Most of the cadres have survived. The broad masses of the mainland are inclined toward San Min Chu I and cannot be annihilated or seriously deterred by violence. They have increased in number after each confrontation. Now Mao has no old cadres except Lin Piao—no Peng Teh-huai, Huang Ke-cheng, Tao Chu, Ho Lung, Liu Shao-chi or Teng Hsiao-ping. Mao can only cling to Lin Piao, give him orders, assure his tractability by clipping his wings and name him as successor. Lin Piao is compelled to hold high the red flag of Mao Tse-tung's thought, to carry out struggles in the open and behind the scenes, and to use the military to rectify the armed forces. Mao wants to make Lin Piao a scapegoat for armed clashes and civil war. Mao and his wife force Lin Piao to follow in the footsteps of Peng Teh-huai, Huang Ke-cheng, Liu Shao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping until Lin's demise. There is no doubt that Mao himself will be criticized, against and placed on public trial in the not too distant future. He will be denigrated, "struggled down" and finally put to death by the people as a whole and by the armed forces during the course of the National Revolution.

If Mao convenes the 'ninth national congress' to destroy the Chinese Communist Party, to usurp its power and to establish a new charter that exalts his thought under the cloak of Marxism-Leninism, he will be walking into a cul de sac. His internal and external struggles must lead him to the end of this long road of despair. Instead of referring to Mao's assemblage as the 'ninth na-



tional congress', it will be more appropriate to regard it as the last rites in which he says farewell to the Chinese Communist Party organization, to Party principles and to Party members. All these then will be regarded as worthless.

Whether Mao actually convenes the congress and the precise timing of meeting are not important. What matters is that people of the mainland have awakened to Mao's crimes. He can no longer hide behind his magic tricks of 20 years ago. Never again can he make use of the lies and illusions to which he resorted to save himself during the clashes of 'great cultural revolution' and 'power seizure struggle.'

Mao's draft charter and his irrationality indicate that the free world is wrong in thinking that the 'ninth national congress' will signal the end of the 'great cultural revolution.' Rather, this will be a day of judgment stemming from the evil wrought by 'Red Guards' during the meeting will sound Mao's death knell. The dirge will be first for the Chinese Communist Party and then for Mao himself. The successful culmination of our National Revolution cannot be far away.

All our endeavors in this Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu bastion of national renaissance are for the purpose of national salvation. Yesterday's hard work was accomplished quietly in preparation for tomorrow's action to win the war of national liberation. The conflict will be a fierce one and our preparations, including the strengthening of combat capability, must be continuously carried forward. The greater the preparedness, the smaller the bloodshed. We need to reinforce the foundations we have already laid and to emphasize political and economic reconstruction and growth. We also should stress social and cultural renovation and remobilization.

Politically, we have decided to hold elections this year to choose additional representatives and to fill vacancies in representative organs on the central level. We shall broaden and enlighten the functioning of our democracy by electing intelligent, competent persons to public office. We shall strengthen our program of self-government, enhance our system of responsibility in the service of the people, rid ourselves of bureaucratic abuses and thereby reinforce the foundations of efficient, honest government.

Economically, we shall review our accomplishments and examine the results of the land-to-the-tiller program, make more land available for lease and construct model rural communities. In doing so we shall permanently preserve our gains from the full utilization of the land. We shall make large-scale use of our national income and strengthen our

social welfare. In providing for the effective use of land, capital and labor, we shall prevent any misuse of these assets.

Socially, we shall encourage austerity to increase savings and investment. We shall perfect environmental sanitation and promote modern habits of life that emphasize orderliness and cleanliness. Men will be able to bring prosperity to their families and the community without becoming effete and decadent. We shall base our code of civic behavior on self-examination and initiative. Our people will be persuaded to assume responsibility for raising the level of man's morality and to regard material inequalities as of lesser importance.

Our common objective is to construct a modern country with up-to-date, honest and competent government; to create a cooperative and patriotic citizenry; and to assure a society in which there is decorum, self-respect, justice, and adherence to law. We shall increase our combat capability for national recovery through further construction in this model province of San Min Chu I. We shall prepare to utilize the experience acquired in the process of San Min Chu I construction for rebuilding the whole nation as soon as our lost territory is recovered.

#### Ideals, Objectives

Fellow countrymen:

We are living up to the ideals and objectives of San Min Chu I in this intensive struggle for the cause of the National Revolution. All of us must stand and contribute without reservation all that we have to the country and to the people so as to accomplish the tasks of the third phase of our National Revolution. Our only national enemy is Mao Tse-tung and we have innumerable anti-Mao comrades everywhere. All of those who are assembled under the banners of the National Revolution and San Min Chu I—regardless of party affiliation or whether they are old or new Communist cadres—are to be counted as our revolutionary comrades. The anti-Communist people and the soldiers of the mainland are joining forces. There is a spiritual reawakening of Chinese at home and abroad. The causes of righteousness that are inherent in China's national soul and character are shining ever more brightly. We are waging total war for our principles and the preservation of our history and of our culture. The final triumph of San Min Chu I and of our National Revolution in implementing benevolence and love, freedom and peace is assured by our dedicated promise of unceasing effort and persistent striving. Thus shall we recover the mainland, liberate our compatriots and comfort the souls of our founding Father and the Revolutionary martyrs! □



# 6th Squadron, 1st Ferry Group

By JOSEPH N. MACKRELL, JR.

Responding to your request concerning information covering units stationed in the CBI Theater, I have gathered together some facts, pictures and a lot of memory searching about the 6th Squadron, 1st Ferry Group, India-China Wing of the Air Transport Command.

It covers the period of time from March 8, 1942, at Fort Bragg, N.C., to February 1944 when I returned to the States.

To the best of my knowledge the 1st Ferry Group was formed at a field in the state of New York. The nucleus of this organization, consisting of three squadrons—the 1st, 3rd and 6th—was sent to Pope Field at Fort Bragg, N.C., for overseas briefing, there to be joined by a complement of men from various fields throughout the country.

At this juncture in history, the usual Army "snafu" was working in high gear. Among those men joining the command at Fort Bragg was a large contingent from Lowry Field, Denver, Colo. Most of these men were trained in bombsight maintenance, power operated turrets and aircraft armament. There being little for men trained in these skills in a transport outfit, many were assigned to other duties. A large number of armament men were later trained as radio operators by the Signal Corps, at Karachi, India.

We were at Pope Field for about 10 days and were then transported by train to Charleston, S. C., our port of embarkation.

Our voyage was on the Brazil, which was one of the most active troopships of World War II. This ship made more than 30 overseas voyages from United States ports between early 1942 and early 1946. The food on our voyage generally was terrible and a great amount of yellow jaundice broke out among the troops. Two men were buried at sea.

Upon arrival at Karachi, we were transported to the Malir continent, about 25 miles out of Karachi. The quarters at this camp were quite comfortable, being of an adobe type construction. One of the drawbacks to this place was that all working parties had to be transported daily to Karachi Air Field.

After a few months at Malir, the 6th Squadron was moved to a tent camp on the edge of Karachi Air Field. Living conditions were quite dusty here and the mess personnel did a good job of

their makeshift quarters. The messhall and kitchen were constructed out of aircraft packing cases. There were advantages to this camp, however, including the nearness to the field and occasional passes into Karachi.

While at this location, the squadron was reinforced by a large contingent of men who had arrived from the States, including another large group of armament men from Lowry Field. I believe this group came over on the Mariposa.

After several months at Karachi, an advance contingent of our squadron consisting of pilots, radio men, ground crew personnel, communications personnel, etc., were sent ahead to our advanced base at Mohanbari, near Dibrugarh in Assam. A short time later a small guard contingent was assigned to a freight train carrying the squadron's equipment to the advanced base. The freight was soon followed by a troop train carrying the main body of the 6th Squadron.

To the best of my failing memory the trip across India took about 10 days and was quite an experience. The equipment had to be unloaded and reloaded several times in order to cross rivers and due to the change in the railroad gauges.

Our first camp at Mohanbari was on a site that had been abandoned by Indian forces a short time before, and was on the primitive side. It consisted of long barrack-type bashas surrounded by deep drainage ditches. All the other buildings in the area were of similar



COTTAGE at Mohanbari, used as officers quarters, was identified by a sign as "The Pearl Art House."



construction. The area was pockmarked with slit trenches and there were several anti-aircraft machine gun emplacements, which were manned by squadron personnel. Yankee ingenuity soon provided us with a fine hot water bath house that was not only a luxury but a real necessity. At this time the officers were stationed at various cottages throughout the area. These cottages were the homes of the managers of the tea plantations.

Operations and other necessary offices and shops were situated near the air strip. The communications building and the tower were a few hundred feet from the main group of buildings. There were several machine gun emplacements in this area and an Indian anti-aircraft battery had several guns near the field. Within the time covered in this report, I believe the field was under enemy attack twice, causing one casualty among the enlisted men and injuries to several natives.

After several months in this area the entire squadron was moved to a new camp on the far side of the air strip. Earlier the air strip was grass, making it necessary to move our flight operations to the Chabua area—which had a paved strip—during the monsoon season. At the time of this move, natives with the aid of a rather ancient rock crusher were paving the entire strip with crushed rock.

The new camp consisted of several rows of thatched bashas built to accommodate eight men and their belongings. There were also several large buildings on this base, including a messhall and kitchen (manned by native personnel under the direction of our mess officers and enlisted personnel), a large day room and a fine theater.



BATH HOUSE, water tanks and boiler of the original camp of the 6th Ferry Squadron at Mohanbari Airfield, Assam. Large barracks-type bashas in background were formerly used by the Indian Army.



INDIAN children posing with Springfield rifle at the laundry at Dibrugarh, Assam.

The 6th Squadron's record of achievement was the envy of the Assam Valley. Much of the credit of our fine showing (leading in missions and tonnage over the Hump) was due to the work of our ground personnel. Our maintenance men worked night and day keeping the overworked and overburdened aircraft in the air.

During this period we lost many crews and aircraft, due to enemy action and weather. Many men were lost to duty for several weeks at a time due to malaria and other sickness. Those men rotated stateside were replaced by new personnel who were constantly being absorbed in the outfit. □

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# CONVERSATION PIECE

By SGT. SMITH DAWLESS

*"Conversation Piece," also known as "The Ledo Road," was acclaimed by the editors of The Army Times as the best soldier poem of World War II. It originally appeared in CBI Roundup.*

**Is the Gateway to India at Bombay,  
Really as beautiful as they say?**

Don't rightly know, Ma'am. Did my part  
Breakin' point in the jungle's heart;  
Blasted the boulders, felled the trees  
With red muck oozin' around our knees.  
Carved the guts from the Patkai's side,  
Dozed our trace, made it clean and wide,  
Metalled and graded, dug and filled:  
We had the Ledo Road to build.

**Well, surely you saw a burning ghat,  
Fakirs, rope-tricks, and all of that?**

Reckon I didn't. But way up ahead  
I tended the wounded, buried the dead.  
For I was a Medic, and little we knew  
But the smell of sickness all day through,  
Mosquitoes, leeches, and dark red mud  
Where the allied Chinese spilled their blood.  
After the enemy guns were stilled:  
We had the Ledo Road to build.

**Of course you found the Taj Mahal,  
The loveliest building of them all?**

Can't really say, lady, I was stuck  
Far beyond Shing with a QM truck.  
Monsoon was rugged there, hot and wet,  
Nothing to do but work and sweat.  
And dry was the dust upon my mouth  
As steadily big "cats" roared on south,  
Over the ground where Japs lay killed;  
We had the Ledo Road to build.

**You've been gone two years this spring.  
Didn't you see a single thing?**

Never saw much but the moon shine on  
A Burmese temple around Maingkwan  
And silver transports high in the sky.  
Thursday River and the swift Tanai,  
And Hukawng Valley coming all green.  
These are the only sights I've seen.  
Did our job, though, like God willed:  
We had the Ledo Road to build.



### CBIers in Bangkok

● A few weeks ago a group of five ex-CBIers got together here in Bangkok to discuss old times in the Far East where some of them have settled and gone into business. Many fond memories were revived and liberties with exaggerations were permitted. Plans were made for about 10 of us to have a get-together on Veterans Day to pay homage to our departed. You can be assured that past copies of Ex-CBI Roundup are closely scrutinized and enjoyed as they are passed around to veterans that were not aware of the CBIVA until recently. Best wishes for continued success.

LOUIS J. POUDRE,  
Bangkok, Thailand

### John L. Willits

● John L. Willits of Company C, 502nd M.P. Bn., died October 23, 1968, at his home in Jersey Shore, Pa. He served six months in the United States during World War II, then 2½ years in India.

WILLIAM ADAM,  
Audubon, N.J.

### First to Arrive

● The 502nd M.P. Battalion was the first MP outfit to arrive in Ledo, Assam (Harmony Church area). It was C Company of the 502nd that pulled duty from Ledo, Assam, to China, not the 159th M.P. Battalion (November issue). Later members of the 502nd M.P. Battalion, who arrived in Ledo in 1943 (about October) formed

other outfits. I never knew of any 159th M.P. Battalion; to my knowledge the 502nd was the lone battalion in that area.

WM. H. ADAM,  
Audubon, N.J.

### Medical Detachment

● It would be nice to see some news of former members of the medical detachment, 472nd Q.M. Truck Regiment or 82nd Q.M. Bn. (Mobile). I spent 2½ years in medical aid stations along the truck route, including Jackal Hill, Pigeon Hill, Goalpara, Pandu, Gauhati Baptist Mission Hospital, Nowgong, Jorhat and Chabua. Keep up the good work . . . each issue of Roundup is eagerly awaited.

EDWARD W. HOPE,  
Fairborn, Ohio

### Stamp Collector

● Six CBIers have sent me stamps in answer to my request; I wonder what's the matter with the rest of my buddies. My foot is getting along pretty well now but I can't walk on it yet outside and only a little in the house. Doctors tell me I will have 95 per cent use of my foot in three years; and that makes me feel good. In the meantime I would very much appreciate more stamps for my collection.

ROBERT C. WALTON,  
20521 Meyers Road,  
Detroit, Mich. 48235

### C-47 in Vietnam

● Will be returning to the U.S. next month and don't want to miss any issues. There are many things I've encountered during this tour in Vietnam that remind me greatly of CBI days during '43-'45. One of the more surprising ones is the vital role being played by the old C-47 aircraft in this war. I enjoy your wonderful publication; keep up the good work.

WINSLOW A. DAVIES,  
Tan Son Nhut AB,  
Vietnam



SHOPPING for bamboo chairs, Jim Prevosti of New York City and Stan Paszkewicz of Perth Amboy, N.J., members of the 31st Signal Heavy Construction Battalion, inspect furniture offered for sale at Jorhat, Assam, India.



## Commander's Message

by

**Louis Gwin**

National Comamnder  
China-Burma-India  
Veterans Assn.



I hope to be in Texas and Oklahoma this month, and in Philadelphia April 19th.

Don't forget the executive board meeting in St. Louis on May 17th. Will tell you more about that later.

Everything looks good for the convention at Vail, Colorado August 6, 7, 8 and 9. Make plans to be there. I intend to have a big surprise for you.

Your Commander,  
LOUIS W. GWIN  
P.O. Box 338  
Percy, Illinois 62272

Dear CBI Friends:

Included in my message to you today is something I find difficult to say. My wife, Margaret, whom many of you knew, died recently in the Chester Memorial Hospital. I shall especially miss her at our many meetings, because, as you know, she always accompanied me as long as her health permitted.

Your messages and other expressions of sympathy were deeply appreciated. I can say simply, "thank you".

But life goes on, and I am gradually picking up and going along with plans.

*This space is contributed to the CBIVA by Ex-CBI Roundup as a service to the many readers who are members of the Assn., of which Roundup is the official publication. It is important to remember that CBIVA and Roundup are entirely separate organizations. Your subscription to Roundup does not entitle you to membership in CBIVA, nor does your membership in CBIVA entitle you to a subscription to Roundup. You need not be a member of CBIVA in order to subscribe to Roundup or vice versa.—Ed.*



HINDUSTHAN Building, then U.S. Army headquarters in Calcutta, India, as it appeared in 1945. Photo by Clare W. Leipnitz.





COMPOUND of Camp Togo, Calcutta, India, home of the 327th Harbor Craft Co., looking across one of the two lakes in the area. On right is a small Hindu temple. Photo by H. B. Gorman.

#### Col. John M. Virden

● Your issue of February was a nice tribute to a fine officer. All of us who served under him will mourn the passing of Colonel John M. Virden. Thanks and keep up the good work with Roundup.

R. de BOURBON,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

#### Chabua, Sookerting

● During World War II, I was stationed at Chabua and Sookerting Air Base with the A.T.C. I would be interested in hearing from some of my old buddies, who were with me over there.

NORBERT HEITZMAN,  
Earlville, Iowa

#### 758th in Assam

● Always enjoy the magazine. Was with the 758th Railway Shop Battalion in Assam for two years. I am now section manager, Quality Control and Research Department, Dairy Division, Safeway Stores, Inc. Met Marvin L. Conn on a flight from Denver a few weeks ago; he was VUZZU radio sports broadcaster in Calcutta. He was not aware of the existence of Ex-CBI Roundup.

JOHN A. BANTLY,  
Concord, Calif.

#### 96th Signal Bn.

● Always glad to send you my check each year, but disappointed with each issue for not seeing or hearing anything from any of the boys who were with me in CBI . . . the 96th Signal Battalion, Co. A, B, C and Headquarters. Sound off, please

VINCE VENUTI,  
Leland, Miss.

#### 44th Field Hospital

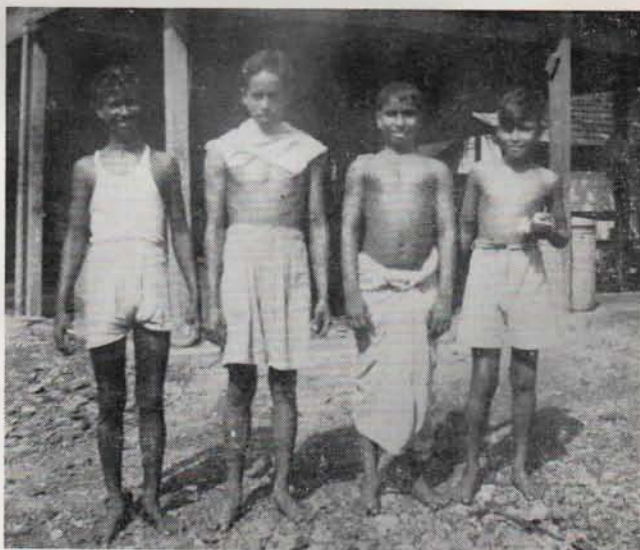
● Enjoy reading the magazine and anxiously hope to read familiar names of men with whom I served in the India-Burma Theater, but am disappointed each time. I am sorry that I could not attend the reunion, but am wondering if any men from the former 44th Field Hospital (Burma) were in attendance. If so, I would like to have their addresses as we are trying to plan a reunion in a year or so.

REV. CHARLES FLECK,  
132 W. Benton.  
Stockport, Ill. 61085

#### Remembers Tokyo Rose

● Will never forget Tokyo Rose (February 1969 issue) when we were in India. Her exact words were: "You boys in Piardoba are doing a great job building those gasoline storage tanks. It's too bad that we'll have to bomb them when they are finished." But they never got that far!

PERRY SCHWARTZ,  
Southfield, Mich.



MESSHALL GANG of four Hindu boys lined up before kitchen and mess facilities at Camp Togo, Calcutta, India. Photo by H. B. Gorman.



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